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# AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

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**LIEUTENANTS COMMISSIONED IN NEW ARMY.** A few days ago, for the first time since the restoration of the Austrian Republic and of Austrian sovereignty, young officers were selected for the Army and awarded their commissions. The men involved are 6 lieutenants and 15 warrant officers who completed their previous service, ranging from 3 to 6 years, in the Austrian Gendarmerie. Ten of the young officers are attached to the Infantry, 4 to the Artillery and Armored Unit, 2 to the Signal-Corps and 1 to the Engineers. The average age is 25 years. Austrian President Theodor Koerner and members of the Federal Government were present at the commissioning of the officers. A guard of honor was provided by young officer candidates. After Chancellor Raab had addressed the new appointees, the senior member of the officer group replied and closed his remarks with the traditional motto of the Austrian soldiers: "Faithful unto death." The motto was then repeated by the other new appointees.

**RAAB DEFINES AUSTRIAN NEUTRALITY.** Chancellor Julius Raab recently dealt in detail with the question of Austrian neutrality in the course of a radio talk. Repeating the declaration made in Parliament at the time the Neutrality Law was adopted, i.e. that this law provides an opportunity for concerted legislative and administrative action on a neutral foreign policy by Austria, the Chancellor added: "The basic rights and freedoms of the citizen are in no way restricted by the Neutrality Law. Neutrality places an obligation on the state, but not on the individual citizen. The intellectual and political freedom of the individual, and freedom of the press and of expression of opinion, in particular, are not affected by the neutrality of the state. Moreover, this Neutrality Law in no way makes ideological neutrality obligatory."

Chancellor Raab welcomed discussion within Austria and abroad on the subject of Austrian neutrality, but he did not conceal the fact that factual and serious discussion had become clouded by misconceptions, some of which had arisen from unintentional misunderstandings and others from deliberately and consciously false interpretations. "It is regrettable," Her Raab declared, "that such misinterpretations should take place in countries where we have good friends and to which we have much to be thankful for. For their part, however, these countries will surely not deny their respect and gratitude to the Austrian people, who proved themselves so magnificently in a period of extreme difficulty. To be sure, I consider it to be even more regrettable that

(Continued on page 2)

**AUSTRIAN-AMERICAN AGREEMENT ON AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS SIGNED.** An agreement regulating Austrian imports of U.S. farm products during the fiscal year 1955-56 was recently signed in Vienna by Chancellor Julius Raab and U.S. Envoy James K. Penfield. This agreement represents a continuation of those concluded last year for farm products and coal, and provides for the import of coal, wheat, cotton, tobacco, lard and preserved fruit in the amount of \$22.3 million. These will be imported in such a manner that the foreign currency reserves of the Austrian National Bank will not have to be drawn upon.

According to competent sources, Austria was especially interested in concluding the agreement because the schilling counterpart funds which will be accumulated will now be available for various domestic projects. A large proportion of the sum involved will be used by the American Government for a long-term, low-interest loan for the development of the Austrian economy. In order to utilize this loan, Austria will have to conclude a separate agreement with the Export-Import Bank. The newly signed agreement with the U.S. also provides for the continued financing of Austrian export of prefabricated wooden houses and also for facilitating the export of nitrogenous fertilizers to Spain.

**RAAB REPLIES TO FOREIGN PRESS REPORTS.** On the occasion of the signing of the Austrian-American agreement on the import of U.S. farm products, Chancellor Julius Raab declared in part as follows:

"While the Austrian economy had to assume heavy burdens as a result of the State Treaty, the United States is providing substantial aid in overcoming these difficulties. Austria will be able to buy U.S. foodstuffs and other agricultural products in the amount of 580 million schillings without having to divert a single dollar of her foreign exchange resources for the purpose. One third of this amount will be paid off by means of exports, while for the remaining two-thirds the American Government has granted us a loan with a period of 20-40 years to pay it back.

"I am able to state, with great joy and satisfaction, that the American authorities have agreed that these credits should be used primarily for the economic rehabilitation of Vienna, Lower Austria, Burgenland and the part of Upper Austria north of the Danube (i.e. the formerly Soviet-occupied areas — Ed.). I should like to thank the American Government for the assistance which it has offered Austria for the further consolidation of her economy. I think that I may view

in this action a token of the confidence of the United States in Austria's subsequent development. Austrian neutrality represents no departure from the constructive economic collaboration of our country with friendly states in Europe and the Americas. The agreement which we have signed today is calculated to improve this situation.

"We know what our task is. I am happy to be able to make this statement on the present occasion, because of late the international press has on several occasions expressed doubts on the subject of Austrian policy. I should like to point out, in reply to this type of unfavorable reporting, that I have never failed to emphasize in official declarations that without the aid which Europe has received from the United States, this old continent would have fallen to the Communists.

"The surest defense against the infiltration of Communist ideology is not in the formulation of phrases and narrow-minded concepts concerning neutrality but in a nation's inner traits of character, buttressed by a set of beliefs."

#### *Austrian Neutrality (Cont'd from page 1)*

here at home, for the purpose of an apparent momentary advantage, our — and also my own — attitude toward neutrality is being subjected to deliberate misinterpretation. In order to reply to all such interpretations once and for all, I should like to make the following statement: The Austrian Federal Government, the responsible political leaders of this country, myself included, stand on the basic precepts of the law. The text of the Neutrality Law, which bears my signature, is unmistakable and clear. I therefore consider it superfluous, and even irresponsible, to continue the attempts to interpret our neutrality in terms of neutralism or of a special kind of 'Austro-neutralism,' with all of its ideological consequences."

**DEMARCHE IN MOSCOW.** At his own request, Foreign Minister Leopold Figl was recently authorized by the Austrian Government to instruct the Austrian Embassy in Moscow to make representations to the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs and remind it that the repatriation of all Austrians still detained in the Soviet Union, as provided by the Austrian State Treaty, had not yet been carried out in full. No reply has yet been received concerning 536 persons about whose whereabouts Austria is making inquiries.

**AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT PRESENTS POPE WITH "BLACK PRAYERBOOK."** The Austrian Government recently resolved to send Foreign Minister Leopold Figl on a special mission to Rome in order to attend the festivities in honor of the 80th birthday of Pope Pius XII and the anniversary of his ascent to the Papal Throne. On this occasion, Minister Figl will present the Holy Father with a copy of the facsimile edition of the "Black Prayerbook" of Galeazzo Maria Sforza as a gift from the Austrian Government. The Foreign Minister will also make a present to the Vatican of a Steyr truck constructed specifically for missionary purposes.

The Black Prayerbook is the work of a Flemish book

painter who is known only by the name of "The Master of Anton von Burgund." This artist, who prepared the prayerbook for Duke Sforza in 1475, soaked the parchment with black paint before beginning to illustrate it. To date, it has not been possible to reconstruct the composition of this paint. Unfortunately, it makes the parchment brittle and, even though the book has been taken apart and the individual pages placed between glass plates, the slow and inevitable deterioration of this magnificent work is inevitable. As the "Black Prayerbook" is the only known work with black parchment pages, and in order to conserve the unique beauty of the book for future generations, the Austrian State Printing Office in Vienna has issued a facsimile edition of the work in its original dimensions of 252/180 mm. (10 x 7 inches).

**RAAB ON THE DUTIES OF AUSTRIAN OFFICERS.** On the occasion of the commissioning of officers for the new Austrian Army, Chancellor Julius Raab declared in part as follows: "Austria does not want to participate in any kind of competitive armament. She does not want to show off with her army and, above all, she has no intention of threatening anyone. In this world which is rent by major political and ideological antagonisms of all kinds Austria would like to be a factor for peace and it is intended that the Austrian Army should make the fulfillment of this task possible. The new army is designed to serve as a reliable and trustworthy protector of Austria's frontiers and as a guarantor of her national institutions

"Good officers have never considered their duty to be fulfilled merely by carrying out military assignments. The officer who is a friend and adviser to his soldiers will be able to handle his men best, because confidence is the firmest foundation for authority. However, confidence must be established not only between officers and men inside the army, but also between the new army and the nation which it serves."



*Austrian Tank Unit*

**OLYMPIC VICTORS GIVEN TRIUMPHAL WELCOME IN VIENNA.** Despite the Arctic cold prevailing in Vienna recently, more than 50,000, Viennese were on hand at the West Station to welcome the victorious members of Austria's Winter Olympic Team.

During their stay in Vienna, the team members were received by President Koerner, who presented the Grand Medal for Services to the Austrian Republic to Anton (Toni) Sailer of Kitzbuehel (Tyrol), triple Olympic victor and holder of four world championships. In his address, President Koerner urged the Olympic victors not to be led astray by their success and not to become stars, but rather to remain good sportsmen and worthy Austrians. At the reception in the Federal Chancellery which followed, Chancellor Raab presented the medalists with rings from the Federal Government. All of the members of the Olympic team who won medals were honored with gifts from the city of Vienna and with gold rings from the Austrian Olympic Committee.

Toni Sailer was also congratulated by Pope Pius XII for his achievements at the Winter Olympic Games at Cortina d'Ampezzo. His native village of Kitzbuehel presented him with a building lot.

**AUSTRIAN LAWS IN THE INTEREST OF VICTIMS OF NATIONAL SOCIALISM.** Another step towards reparation of victims of National Socialist legislation has been taken with the "Aid Fund Act" passed by the Austrian National Assembly in its session of January 18th. Most of the provisions in the restitution acts seem to fulfil the general demands as they now stand. The first effective measures by the Austrian government are to be found in the restitution acts, which govern the return of property and assets to the victims of national socialist legislation. Claims under the law were filed as early as May 1945. Public funds have now been allocated by the Austrian Government to provide the basis for a social aid program.

*The Restitution Acts:* All measures under the federal acts are applicable to individuals who suffered discrimination under the German occupation, regardless of whether discrimination was caused by national, religious, racial, political or party reasons.

The First Restitution Act, passed by the Austrian Parliament in 1946, concerns the return of property and assets expropriated by the "Deutsche Reich" and now under the jurisdiction of Austrian authorities.

Three additional bills were passed during 1947. The Second Restitution Act governed the handling of assets which had become the property of the Austrian Federal Republic — chiefly assets of political organizations and war criminals.

The Third Restitution Act is concerned with the remaining types of property, including those properties for which rightful owners had to abandon their deeds due to Germany's economic penetration of Austria or for political reasons. The Fourth Restitution Act provided the legal basis for the re-establishment of titles of companies and businesses changed or annulled under the National Socialist administration.

The remaining three restitution acts, passed during 1949, concerned special problems of property settlement, among them the restitution of property titles of juridical bodies annulled under National Socialist administration (Fifth Act), restoration of business rights (Sixth Act), and finally claims resulting from employees' status in private industry, settled by the provisions of the Seventh Restitution Act.

The National Assembly has only recently passed a law (December 20th) which will govern the restitution of ecclesiastical properties and titles to property. A public trustee, yet to be appointed, will handle all properties under former church ownership now located in Austria.

*Acts in Anticipation of State Treaty Provisions:* The first series of restitution acts, passed in 1946 and 1947, ruled that unclaimed property will be entrusted to a "holding office." This provision was also contained in the first draft of the Austrian State Treaty, drawn up in 1946, and was included in the final wording of the State Treaty. The execution of the provisions on a national basis has already been provided for in a government bill, subject to study by a steering committee of the National Assembly. The "holding office" will claim all assets for which registration has not been received and will then use the equivalent amounts in the interests of victims of discrimination under the National Socialist administration.

Despite heavy financial burdens, Austria thus attempted to fulfil the major part of her obligations, later subject to special provisions of the State Treaty, immediately after the re-establishment of her national status.

The various legislative measures have been prepared in cooperation with representatives of groups subjected to discrimination who voiced their claims in a number of meetings.

The recently-passed aid and welfare act represents an attempt by Austria to use her own funds for the redress of grievances, in spite of the fact that Austria cannot be held liable in any way for the regrettable acts of the occupation authorities between the years 1938 and 1945. The provisions are aimed solely at former Austrian nationals who fled their home in order to avoid anticipated discrimination but who are now in need of some kind of aid in their foreign residence where the provisions of the national social welfare program do not apply. Administration of the aid program has been entrusted to a council, members of which will be nominated by the government upon a special motion by the executive committees of organizations of victims of discrimination. Allotments will not be granted on the basis of financial losses, but will be based solely upon the present financial situation, and will be made in one lump sum.

Upon publication of the Aid Fund Act, Chancellor Raab expressed his personal satisfaction before the National Assembly. He stated that this law will surely alleviate the situation of a great number of persons who have suffered from political discrimination and that he hopes for friendly future relations between neutral Austria and Israel which should become increasingly cordial, as have her relations with other countries.

**WORLD BANK DELEGATION ARRIVES IN VIENNA.** A delegation of the World Bank, headed by Dr. Umbricht, has arrived in Vienna to study the best possible allocation of a World Bank loan. The question involved is a major dollar loan for several large-scale power projects. Dr. Umbricht was also head of the delegation which came to Vienna in November 1955 to make an on-the-spot study of the conditions for granting a third World Bank loan to Austria.

**ATOMIC ENERGY THEME TO DOMINATE WORLD POWER CONFERENCE IN VIENNA.** The Fifth World Power Conference will be held in Vienna from July 17-23, 1956. Because of the large number of participants expected (a total of 47 countries will be represented), the officially opening ceremonies on July 17 will be held simultaneously in the Vienna State Opera House and in the Vienna Burg Theater. President Theodor Koerner will welcome the delegates and Dr. Erwin Schroedinger, Austrian Nobel Prize winner, will deliver the principal address. The musical background for the proceedings will be provided by the Vienna Philharmonic, under the baton of Dr. Karl Boehm. The theme of the conference will be "The World's Sources of Energy Viewed in the Light of Technical and Economic Developments." The principal item of discussion will be the changeover from traditional sources of energy to atomic energy.

The background material being supplied the delegates — and a knowledge of which is a prerequisite for participation in the Conference discussions — already extends to more than 5,000 printed pages, divided into 18 specialized fields.

**U.S. ATOM EXPERTS IN VIENNA.** Messrs. Griswold (Detroit Edison Company) and Stason, American atomic energy experts, recently visited Vienna to confer with the Austrian authorities in charge of atomic energy problems on the construction of an atomic reactor there. The American visitors held numerous talks with Austrian specialists in the field of energy production as well as with leading scientists of Austrian universities and representatives of major industries. They also made visits to universities and industrial installations in the provinces.

**HOUSEHOLD POWER CONSUMPTION UP 18.7%.** According to the statistics on power consumption during 1955, the greatest increase was accounted for by households. Whereas overall power consumption in Austria increased 12.4% in 1955, i.e. by more than one billion KWH over the 1954 figure, consumption in the household sector rose by 18.7%, i.e. from 763 to 906 million KWH. The equipment mainly responsible for this increase includes electric stoves, refrigerators, hot-water heaters and washing machines.

**OVER 3,500 EXHIBITORS AT 1956 VIENNA SPRING FAIR.** More than 3,500 exhibitors will participate in the Vienna Spring Fair, for which all of the available exhibition space has already been allocated. The number of foreign firms taking part will exceed 1,000. Many interesting novelties will be presented by 1,500 groups of manufacturers from all

branches of domestic and foreign industry. The section of the Fair at the "Rotundengelaende" will feature an "International Automobile Show" and special displays on "Household Technology" and "Transportation and Packing." The agricultural exhibition at the Rotundengelaende will include a special display entitled "Planning, Building, Managing."

**PETROLEUM PRODUCTION AVERAGES 9,550 TONS DAILY**

Steadily increasing consumption of motor-vehicle fuels, gas oil and heating fuel, together with deliveries to the Soviet Union under the State Treaty, have made it necessary for Austria to expand her petroleum production to an ever-increasing degree. Since August 13, 1955, the day on which the formerly Soviet-occupied oil fields were turned over to the Austrian Petroleum Administration (OeMV), drilling activity has been continued on a normal scale. Up to August 13, the average daily production of crude oil for 1955 was 9,507 tons; subsequent to this changeover date, the average has been 9,550 tons. From August 13 to December 31, 1955, 46 new oil soundings were tapped. One interesting fact is that, of last year's crude oil production of 3,666,112 tons, the Matzen field alone accounted for 2,873,143 tons, whereas only 285,341 tons were produced by the old Zistersdorf fields. The remainder came from the Muehlberg field in the north (329,227 tons), the Aderklaaer field in the south (176,638 tons) and smaller deposits in the Lower Austrian petroleum area. From 1939, the year in which petroleum production was started, to the end of 1955, a total of 26 million tons of crude oil have been produced in Lower Austria, over 11 million tons in the Matzen area.

The Austrian Petroleum Administration, which is now employing more than 10,000 persons, has undertaken an extensive investment program for 1956. Among other things, this program provides for the drilling for new sources of gas, extension of the electric power network in the Matzen field, an intensified highway program in the oil areas, laying new oil and gas lines, etc.

Very close attention will be paid to avoiding losses in gas, which amount to approximately half a million cubic meters daily, or one-fourth of the total amount produced. This action is necessary not only in view of steadily increasing industrial requirements but also because of plans to establish a petrochemical industry.

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**TYROL PRODUCING CONDENSER PAPER FOR EXPORT.**

Until recently, Finland and the United States were the world's only producers of condenser paper. Now, however, a paper plant in Tyrol has begun to manufacture this type of high-grade paper, thereby breaking through the monopoly in Europe hitherto held by Finland. The Austrian product is already capable of competing with that of the other two countries, both in quality and price. Although manufacturers using such specialized products are usually reluctant to accept new brands, the Tyrolean condenser paper has found purchasers not only in Austria but has also achieved promising sales on the international market.

**AUSTRIA RANKS FOURTH AMONG WORLD'S LUMBER EXPORTERS.** In the balance-sheet for Austrian trade, lumber stands at the top of the list of the country's exports. Austria herself ranks fourth among the world's lumber exporters, preceded by Canada, Sweden (4.3 million cubic meters) and Finland (3.34 million cubic meters) and followed by the Soviet Union in fifth place. Austria exported a total of 3.28 million cubic meters during 1955.

Austria's lumber export is concentrated in the European economic area which, in recent years, has registered an annual consumption of approximately 29 million cubic meters of milled pine lumber.

Since 1949, Austria has supplied approximately 14 million cubic meters of milled pine lumber for European reconstruction. Her position in the European lumber economy is especially advantageous in view of the fact that she can supply wood all year round, whereas geographical considerations do not afford her competitors the same opportunity.

**AUSTRIAN SHIPS ON THE RHINE.** Austrian ships have recently, and for the first time, been cruising the Rhine river between Basel and the Benelux ports. A Vienna transportation company has acquired two motorships with a capacity of 714 tons each and named "Austria I" and "Austria II." These vessels are transporting piece goods and bulk goods to and from Austria. In view of the plans to establish a Rhine-Main-Danube waterway, it is intended that Austria should gradually acquire a Rhine fleet.

**RAPID RECONSTRUCTION OF RINGSTRASSE HOTELS.** Three large hotels on Vienna's Ringstrasse, in the vicinity of the State Opera House, are currently being completely renovated. These hotels were released last year following the signing of the State Treaty, after ten years of military occupation service. Renovation work on the second wing of the Bristol Hotel will be completed in May of this year. Since the first wing was partly renovated immediately after the release, for commercial operation, this hotel will be fully prepared for the 1956 tourist season. Reconstruction work in the Hotel Imperial, which had been occupied by the Soviets, will be completed in the spring of 1957. In keeping with its traditions, the Imperial will continue to feature large and luxurious suites, although, as a result of the redesigning, the number of beds will be increased from 215 to 300. Subsequently, the Grand Hotel, which was also held by the Soviets, will be remodeled and have over 500 beds. As a result of the refurbishing of the three Ringstrasse hotels, the number of available beds in Vienna hotels will be increased by over 1,000, making a total of over 10,000 beds.

**RAPID PROGRESS IN RECONSTRUCTION OF VIENNA RAILROAD STATIONS.** The main ticket office, the first part of the newly constructed South Railroad Station in Vienna to be completed, will soon be opened to the public. This new station, where all the railroad traffic to the East and the South is to be concentrated, will be entirely completed by the fall of 1956. Trains will operate on three levels, which the travellers will be able to reach by means of escalators and elevators. Provision is also being made for a future underground station in the same unit, to link the

new express line connecting the suburbs of Floridsdorf and Meidling. The main hall of the station, measuring approximately 16,000 sq. ft. is located at street level. The platforms for eastbound trains are on the second floor and for the southbound on the third floor. The opening of the new South Station will coincide with the electrification of the first stretch of the southern railway line out of Vienna. Those in charge of constructing the new station were able to profit by the experience acquired when the new West Station, now considered to be one of Europe's most modern railroad stations, was erected. The new South Station, whose proportions are as before, will be capable of handling larger crowds of arriving and departing tourists more quickly.

The former North Station, which, like all the other Vienna railroad stations, was destroyed during the war, is also being rebuilt. It will be substantially larger than its predecessor and occupy more than one-fourth of the area of the gigantic new "Praterstern."

## CULTURE AND SCIENCE

**EUROPEAN STATIONS TO EXCHANGE MOZART BROADCASTS.** A number of European countries, including Belgium, Germany, Great Britain, France, Italy, Yugoslavia, Luxembourg, Sweden and Switzerland have prepared a series of "Mozart Exchange Broadcasts," in honor of the Mozart Year celebrations of 1956. Austria's contribution to this series, the theme of which will be "Mozart, the European," will include broadcasts of the Vienna Festival in June, 1956, the Salzburg Festival in July-August 1956, and the solemn performances of the Mozart Requiem at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna on December 5, 1956, the anniversary of the composer's death. The Austrian Broadcasting System will also present performances of Mozart's chamber music as well as all of his symphonies and piano concertos.

**MOZART DOMINATES 1956 SALZBURG FESTIVAL.** The operatic repertory of the 1956 Salzburg Festival is made up exclusively of works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. As during the 1953 and 1954 Festivals, "Cosi fan Tutte," will be performed at the Residence, under the direction of Dr. Karl Boehm. The same conductor will be in charge of the new production of "The Marriage of Figaro" in the Festival Theatre and also of "Idomeneo" which, following its successful performance during Mozart Festival Week in January 1956, is now to be included in the summer program, too. This year's "Don Giovanni" will be directed by Dimitri Mitropoulos, making his first appearance conducting opera in Salzburg. George Szell, who was in charge of the Festival's new productions during the past two years, will conduct this year's "The abduction from the Seraglio." "The Magic Flute" is also to be produced in last year's version, under the baton of Georg Solti.

The series of orchestral concerts by the Vienna Philharmonic at the 1956 Salzburg Festival will be opened by Bruno Walter. This year, as he did two years ago, Dimitri Mitropoulos will conduct two orchestral concerts. The other conductors will be Karl Boehm, George Szell, Raphael Kubelik and Fritz Reiner.

**MOZART MUSICAL COMPETITION IN SALZBURG.** Under the auspices of the Academy of Music and Arts and the Mozarteum in Salzburg, the Austrian Ministry of Education is organizing a musical competition dedicated to the interpretation of works of Mozart for the voice, the piano and the violin. The contest will be held in Salzburg and is designed to determine how well the younger musical generation of 1956 is able to interpret Mozart's music. Further details may be obtained from the office of the secretary, "International Mozart Competition," Mozarteum, Salzburg.

**SALZBURG TO CONTINUE WINTER MOZART FESTIVALS.** Inspired by the great success of the 1956 Winter Mozart Festival, the International Mozarteum Foundation in Salzburg has decided, as of 1957, to celebrate Mozart's birthday with an annual Salzburg Winter Mozart Festival. Under these plans, the most important events of the 1957 Festival would be concentrated between January 25-28.

**MOZART COMMEMORATIVE TABLET DEDICATED IN MEXICO.** In honor of the bicentenary of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, a tablet commemorating the composer was recently dedicated at the Palacio de Bellas Artes in Mexico City. The speakers at the dedication ceremony were Mexican Minister of Education Jose Angel Cenicerros and the Austrian Charge d'Affaires, Dr. Baumann. The dedication was followed by a Mozart Evening at the Austrian Legation. The Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes is scheduling at least two special Mozart events every month throughout 1956. These will include symphony concerts, operas, chamber music and recitals.

**MOZART'S RONDO FOR GLASS HARMONICA HEARD IN SAN FRANCISCO.** On January 27th, the bicentennial of Mozart's birth, a San Francisco group called the "Patrons of Art and Music" gave an elaborate Birthday Party in honor of Mozart in the Palace of the Legion of Honor. One of the high spots of the Mozart program was a performance of the Adagio and Rondo for glass harmonica, flute, oboe, viola and cello (K. 617) by the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra under its conductor Enrique Jorda. The harmonica part was played by the San Francisco accordionist, John Molinari.

The glass harmonica was invented by Benjamin Franklin. It consists of a series of hemispherical glasses turning on an axis and is played by touching the edges with the dampened finger.

**VIENNA THEATRICAL COMPANY TO TOUR SOUTH AMERICA.** During the months of July and August, the company of Vienna's Theater in der Josefstadt will perform in Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay. The tour, which includes stops at Buenos Aires, Santiago, Valparaiso, Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, will include performances of Oscar Wilde's "An Ideal Husband," "The Dear Family," by Felicity Douglas and "Rendezvous in Vienna" by Fritz Eckhardt. The Theater in der Josefstadt will thus be the first German-language acting ensemble to visit South America since the end of World War Two. The same company has also been invited to represent Austria in this year's "Festival of Paris," an event held in the French capital every June and July.

**SCHEDULE OF AMERICAN TOUR BY SALZBURG MOZARTEUM ORCHESTRA.** The Salzburg Mozarteum Orchestra will arrive in New York early in March for a concert tour of the United States lasting nearly two months. The orchestra will give an all-Mozart concert in New York's Carnegie Hall on March 9, 1956. This concert, as well as all of the others to be given by the ensemble, will be conducted by Ernst Maerzendorfer. The program includes the overture to "Idomeneo," the K. 205 Divertimento and the "Linz Symphony." The soloists will be Emmy Loose (Vienna State Opera) and Ralph Herbert (Metropolitan Opera).

During its stay in the U.S. the Mozarteum Orchestra will make the following appearances:

#### MARCH

7 New Britain, Conn.	Teachers College Auditorium
7 Northampton, Mass.	Greene Hall, Smith College
8 Wellesley, Mass.	Bardwell Auditorium, Dana Hall
9 New York City, N.Y.	Carnegie Hall
11 Jersey City, N.J.	
12 Princeton, N.J.	McCarter Theater
13 Reading, Pa.	Rajah Theatre
14 Saratoga Springs, N.Y.	Convention Hall, Skidmore College
15 Boston, Mass.	Jordan Hall
17 Baltimore, Md.	Lyric Theatre
18 Washington, D.C.	Constitution Hall
20 Durham, N.C.	Page Auditorium, Duke University
21 Augusta, Ga.	Lawrence B. Evans School Auditorium
22 Maryville, Tenn.	Samuel Tyndale Wilson Chapel
23 Greenville, S.C.	Rodeheaver Auditorium
24 Charlotte, N.C.	Ovens Auditorium
26 Huntington, W. Va.	Keith Albee Theatre
27 Bloomington, Ind.	University Auditorium
28 Milwaukee, Wisc.	

#### APRIL

2,3 Denver, Colo.	
4 Boulder, Colo.	
6 Kansas City, Missouri	Music Hall
8 Ames, Iowa	Curtiss Hall
9 Monmouth, Ill.	Monmouth College Gymnasium
10 Waverly, Iowa	Knights Gymnasium
11 Minneapolis, Minn.	Northrop Memorial Auditorium
13 Cleveland, Ohio	Music Hall
14 Chicago, Ill.	
15 Madison, Wisc.	Wisconsin Union Theatre
16 Marquette, Mich.	State College Auditorium
17 Hiram, Ohio	Hayden Auditorium
18 Toledo, Ohio	Museum of Art Peristyle
20 Toronto, Canada	Massey Hall
21 Geneseo, N.Y.	Teachers College Auditorium
22 Allentown, Pa.	Lyric Theatre
23 New Brunswick, N.J.	Rutgers University Auditorium
24 New York City, N.Y.	MacMillan Theatre, Columbia Univ.

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#### AMERICAN VOICE STUDENT A SENSATION IN VIENNA.

John Robert Dunlap, an American student of singing who is now studying at the Vienna Academy of Music on an Austrian scholarship, scored a sensational success in a performance of "The Tales of Hoffmann" by the Academy at Vienna's Akademie Theater. One newspaper critic praised his "unusually dramatic voice, whose upper register is almost phenomenal." Another called his performance "the finest achievement of the production" and still others spoke of "his brilliant high notes in the Mirror Aria."

It was also suggested that Dunlap should be heard in a larger auditorium.

**PAUL BADURA-SKODA TO BE HEARD IN TOWN HALL.**

Paul Badura-Skoda, the famous Austrian piano virtuoso, will give his only New York recital of the season at Town Hall on Wednesday, March 14, at 8:30 p.m. Badura-Skoda, who is a holder of the Austrian State Prize, will be heard in an all Mozart program. After his visit to the United States he will fly to Australia, where he is to appear in 42 recitals and on July 19, the young Austrian pianist will return to make his first appearance as a soloist at the Hollywood Bowl.

**BURGTHEATER TO GIVE FIRST PERFORMANCE OF HOCHWAEELDER PLAY.**

The Vienna Burgtheater has undertaken to give the first performance of a new play by the Austrian author Fritz Hochwaelder, who is particularly well-known for his drama "The Holy Experiment," dealing with the Jesuit state once established in Paraguay. The new work is entitled "Die Herberge" (The Shelter), a legend of the contemporary period showing the workings of a higher justice as the drama unfolds. Fritz Hochwaelder, who is now 45 years old, was recently honored when he was awarded the Grillparzer Prize for "Donadieu," his play about the Huguenots, which also had its world premiere at the Burgtheater. The Grillparzer Prize is awarded every three years by the Austrian Academy of Sciences for outstanding achievements in the field of drama.

**BURGTHEATER TO VISIT POLAND.** In mid-March, an ensemble of the Vienna Burgtheater will make a trip to Poland to give performances of Schiller's "Kabale und Liebe" and Hermann Bahr's "Das Konzert." An ensemble of the Cracow Old Theater will make a return visit to Vienna in the spring of 1956.

**VIENNA PREMIERES.** Early in March, the Theater in der Josefstadt will present the premiere of "Der Erfolgreiche," (The Successful), an adaptation by Walter and Irma Firner of Hans Kades' novel about a surgeon, which bears the same title. The production is being directed by Werner Kraut and Kurt Heintel will play the leading role.

During the Easter season, Jean Giraudoux' drama "Lucretia" and Jean Anouilh's comedy "Die Schule der Vaeter" (School for Fathers) will have their first Austrian performances. Both plays will be directed by Rudolf Steinboeck, who has been acclaimed for his successful production of Anouilh's "Ornifle" at the Schiller Theater in Berlin. Aglaja Schmid will take the parts of Lucille in "Lucretia" and Araminte in "The School for Fathers." Erich Frey will be the prosecutor in the Giraudoux play and Orlas in the Anouilh work. The German film and stage star, Ilse Steppat, has been signed for the role of Paola in "Lucretia."

The rights for the first Austrian performance of Friedrich Duerrenmatt's latest stage work, "Der Besuch der alten Dame" (The Visit of the Old Lady), which recently had its world premiere in Switzerland, have been acquired by the Vienna Volkstheater. The play will be presented by the Volkstheater during the coming season.

**CANADIAN CONDUCTOR IN VIENNA.** Paul Schermann, the Canadian conductor (Toronto Symphony Orchestra), recently led the Vienna Symphony Orchestra in a much appreciated concert in the main auditorium of the Vienna Konzerthaus. Schermann gave still another widely applauded concert with the Vienna Radio Orchestra. The latter program was dedicated to the works of Canadian composers and was carried by the Austrian Broadcasting System.

**EXHIBITION TO HONOR FISCHER VON ERLACH.** A comprehensive exhibition is now being organized to honor the 300th anniversary of the birth of Fischer von Erlach, the great Austrian baroque architect whose structures adorn not only Vienna but also the other cities of the former Habsburg Empire. A working committee, headed by Professor Clemens Holzmeister, is planning on the display not only of the famous architect's own drawings and sketches but also photographs of works which are no longer in existence. It will also include models of buildings which were planned but never erected. It is intended that every structure of Fischer von Erlach shall be illustrated as fully as possible, from the earliest sketches through the construction stage down to the finished building. The exhibit will also deal with the architect's contemporaries, including material about the persons who commissioned his services and about his collaborators, including the painters Johann Rottmayr and Daniel Gran. Also to be featured are works by other artists serving to illustrate the accomplishments of Fischer von Erlach, e.g. sketches by Bernini, with whom the Austrian architect studied during his stay in Rome while still a youth. The exhibition will be opened in Graz, the birthplace of Fischer von Erlach, in October 1956. Later, it will move to Vienna and in 1957 it will be held in Salzburg.

**PAINTING OF SIGNING OF STATE TREATY.** Professor Robert Fuchs, has been commissioned by the Austrian Government to paint a representation of the historical signing of the Austrian State Treaty in Vienna's Belvedere Palace on May 15, 1955. The purpose of the painting is to keep the memory of this solemn event alive for history. The painting will hang in the Federal Chancellery in Vienna.

**FILMS ABOUT SAILER IN PREPARATION.** Toni Sailer, the Austrian Winter Olympics Champion, is the subject of two film shorts being prepared by the Benesch Film Company. One of them, photographed in Eastman color, shows the Olympic victor in his family surroundings and at his job. It also includes shots of his native town of Kitzbuehl and the surrounding areas, where he acquired his outstanding skill as a skier. The second picture is a 20-minute, black and white film for the Eurovision and U.S. television networks. It describes how the 20-year-old Kitzbuehl skier won four world championships.

Toni Sailer has also been offered a leading part in a full-length feature. The Ostermayr Company, which is planning a new version of the "Geier-Wally" story, wants Sailer for the role of "Baeren-Josef," to play opposite "Geier-Wally" herself. Sailer has not yet made any statement on the offer.

**ENGLISH HIT TO BE PERFORMED IN VIENNA.** Vienna's Theater in der Josefstadt is scheduling a production of "Book of the Month" by the British author Thomas Basil, one of the most successful plays of the current London season. The German adaptation was made by Oskar Karlweis, who recently died in New York. The Vienna production, which is to be entitled "Ihr erster Roman," will probably also be the first German-language production.

**VIENNA OPERA BALL REVIVED.** On February 9, after an interruption of 18 years, Vienna's famous Opera Ball was held once again and it took place in the newly reconstructed Vienna State Opera House. The plans for the reconstruction of the opera house took into account the requirements of this annual event, when the auditorium and entire stage are transformed into what is probably the largest enclosed dance floor in the world. Nevertheless, 36 hours of uninterrupted work by 300 specialized workers were still necessary in order to transform the opera house into a ballroom. The ball itself, which was impressively opened by 200 couples, was attended by the President, the Chancellor, numerous members of the Federal Government and about 6,000 guests.

**10TH ANNIVERSARY FOR VIENNA ICE REVIEW.** This season the Vienna Ice Review celebrates its 10th anniversary. Starting in the early post-war years as a small group with a bare 50 costumes at its disposal and giving 46 performances a season, the company's performance has now become a large-scale review with a cast of over 50 giving 280 performances during the present season. For its European tours, it now has 3 freight cars full of costumes,

one car of sets and properties and also its own artificial ice installation. During this ten year period, the audience per season has increased from 120,000 to 2.5 million. Its steady series of engagements takes the Ice Review on regular visits to Western Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Norway, France, Spain and North Africa.

**PROF. DUDA ASSIGNED TO ISTANBUL BY UNESCO.**

Professor Herbert W. Duda, Director of Vienna University's Oriental Institute, recently left for Istanbul where, upon assignment by UNESCO, he will participate in a major scientific project. This U.N. organization for cultural affairs is conducting a study of the many extremely valuable manuscripts of Persian poets in the libraries of the Turkish capital. Most of the manuscripts date from the 13th to the 17th centuries.

**FILM ON CANCER BEING PREPARED.** Kurt Steinwender, the well-known Viennese film director is currently preparing a full-length feature on the subject of cancer, which will be filmed at the Antoine Clinic. The psychological angle will be supervised by the Hoff Clinic. By no means intended to start a new "cancer neurosis," the picture is designed to show, on the one hand, that some cancers are now curable, and on the other that daily progress is being made in the possibilities of curing the disease.

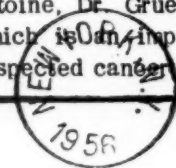
Dr. Viktor Gruenberger, a lecturer at the First University Gynecological Clinic and a well-known cancer specialist, is acting as consultant on the script. Together with Professor Tassilo Antoine, Dr. Gruenberger developed the Kolpo-microscope, which is an important new instrument in the diagnosis of suspected cancer.

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